



Hardware Installation Guide

VIDABOX™ – MAX™

Hardware Installation Guide

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Support: <http://www.vidabox.com/support>

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Introduction

Congratulations on your purchase of the VidaBox MAX™! You have made an investment in attaining a state-of-the-art audio and visual experience for your home!

The VidaBox™ is the culmination of research in the latest home audio and visual technology.

This “all-in-one” device combines the functions of multiple home entertainment components, such as a DVD player, a CD/MP3 player, a computer, and TiVo® box into one, easy-to-use appliance (unit).

Every VidaBox™ is preconfigured for easy installation and minimal setup time. Everything works right out of the box.

All of our systems are fully featured, providing an unmatched digital experience.

We hope you enjoy using your VidaBox MAX™, and encourage you to read through this comprehensive installation guide if you decide to install it yourself. Please be sure to check out our website and support forum, where new features, questions, and answers are available everyday.

Enjoy your VidaBox™ and have a great entertainment experience!

Sincerely,

Steven W. Cheung
Owner

Sergio DeAlbuquerque
Owner

How to Best Use This Guide

In order to avoid improper installation, we recommend that you read through this guide and follow the setup steps carefully.

I C O N K E Y	
	New Section
	Checklist Items
	Valuable Information
	Answer Before Proceeding
	Move on to the next section
	Keyboard Required

Please pay close attention to these icons. They alert you to key pieces of information that are needed for a successful installation of the VidaBox™.

If your system is professionally installed, the installation technician should go over the main features of the VidaBox™ with you. Keep this booklet as a reference guide in case it is needed in the future, and read over the User's Guide next.

We hope you enjoy using your VidaBox MAX™, and encourage you to read through this comprehensive installation guide if you decide to install it yourself. Please be sure to check out our website and support forum, where new features, questions, and answers are available everyday.

FILL IN AND SAVE

Look in the rear of your VidaBox™ and locate the serial number & Windows Product Key. Write it here and retain it for future reference.

Serial No. _____

Date of Purchase _____

Windows
Product Key: _____



➤ Parts List

Please check and make sure all of the parts below are in your box before getting started. See the Packing List to find which optional accessories came with your VidaBox MAX™.

- ✓ VidaBox MAX™ Unit (Black or Silver)
- ✓ This Installation Guide
- ✓ Comprehensive User's Guide
- ✓ MAX™ Quick Hardware Installation Guide
- ✓ Standard & Optional Accessories – Check List below
- ✓ Software Configuration Guide
- ✓ Troubleshooting Guide



Missing Parts?

Don't panic!! Simply call the dealer or your place of purchase immediately and someone will be able to assist you.

Standard Accessories

- ✓ Standard 120V 3-prong Power Cable
- ✓ High Quality 6' RCA Audio Cable
- ✓ High Quality 6' S-Video Cable
- ✓ Two (2) FM antennas
- ✓ Wireless keyboard USB RF Receiver
- ✓ Two (2) DVI-to-VGA Adapters
- ✓ Wireless RF keyboard with integrated trackball & storage sack (33' range)
- ✓ Remote receiver dongle with two (2) IR blasters & (2) AA batteries
- ✓ TV-Out Dongle – for S-Video, Component Video Outputs
- ✓ Short VGA Jumper Cable
- ✓ 3.5mm to L/R RCA Adapter
- ✓ 1-to-2 Coaxial Cable splitter
- ✓ Two (2) Short Coaxial cables
- ✓ Microsoft Media Center Remote
- ✓ Two (2) S-Video/RCA TV-in Plugs

Optional Accessories

- ✓ Harmony® Programmable Remote
- ✓ Karaoke Kit 400 or Karaoke Kit 900 – 400 or 990 songs with songbook
- ✓ Wireless Microphone Kits - Two (2) microphones with integrated mixer
- ✓ HDTV: Additional 1-to-2 Coaxial Splitter with two (2) Short Coaxial cables
- ✓ Wireless USB Networking Adapter



➤ VidaBox Diagrams

Please take some time to familiarize yourself with the MAX™ before proceeding.

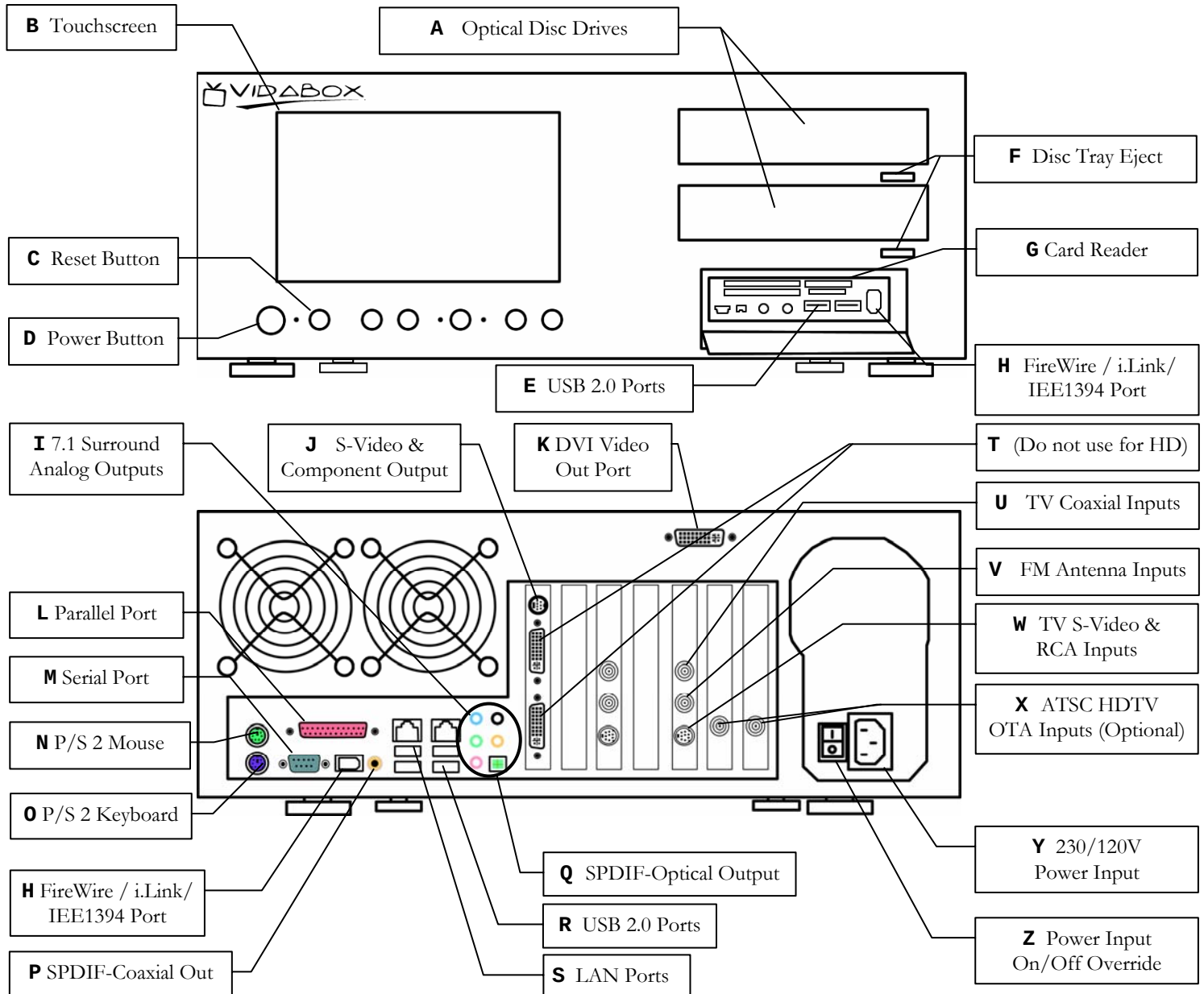


FIGURE 1.0 – VIDABOX MAX™ FRONT & BACK PANELS

We recommend that the VidaBox™ be professionally installed to yield the best possible audio-visual experience.

Please familiarize yourself with the **Quick Hardware Installation Guide** and its diagrams before proceeding.



Help! My Parts Look Different!

These pictures are for illustration only. The parts in your box may look slightly different.



Power Cable

➤ VidaBox™ Placement

The VidaBox™ should be placed in a well-ventilated area. This will help facilitate the exchange of heat out of the system, thereby minimizing operating fan noise. At a minimum, any area with a fan grille should have about four (4) inches of clearance. This will allow fresh air to circulate through the MAX™.

➤ Connect the Power Cable Y

Connect the Power Cable into the Y Power Input; make sure it is plugged in securely.



Wireless Keyboard Receiver

➤ Connect the Wireless Keyboard Receiver R

Then, connect the USB keyboard receiver into any available USB port. The keyboard receiver should be placed in an open area for best performance. Like the wireless module, you will want to connect it in the back R USB Ports using the included USB extension cable.



IR Remote Receiver

➤ Connect the Remote Receiver R

Next, connect the USB remote receiver into any available USB port. This adapter needs a clear line-of-sight to your entire room.



FM Antennas

➤ Connect the FM Antennas V

Connect the two included FM Antennas into the V FM Antenna Inputs. Make sure they are connected securely.



CAT-5 Ethernet Cable

➤ Connect the LAN Port S

If you have a hard line internet connection available, you can connect to it directly with a CAT-5 Ethernet cable to the S LAN Port.



Wireless / WiFi module

➤ Connect the Wireless USB Networking Module R (Optional)

Simply stick the wireless module into any available USB port. For optimum connection, you can use the included USB extension cords to connect it to the back R USB Ports, so that it is hidden.

* - All pictures shown are for illustration purposes only. Actual product appearance may vary.

➤ Connect the TV Inputs (Analog)

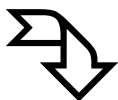
Depending on your TV provider source, you may connect the TV inputs in one of the following ways:

❶ Do You Have a Set-top Box (STB)?

1. **No** – Go to Connecting Directly from a Coaxial Cable below.
2. **Yes** – Go to ❶ How Many Set-top Boxes (STB's) Do You Have?



1-to-2 coaxial splitter



Looking for the Next Section?

Look for this icon. It denotes the start of a new section



Included IR Blaster



Remote Receiver

Connecting Directly from a Coaxial Cable:

1. Take your incoming cable or satellite coaxial cable and plug it into the “In” Port of the supplied 1-to-2 coaxial splitter.
2. Plug the output ends of the coaxial cable into the U TV Coaxial Input using the included short coaxial jumper cables.
3. ➤ Move on to the next section, ➤ Connect the HDTV Inputs on page 12

❶ How Many Set-top Boxes (STBs) Do You Have?

1. **Two (2)** – Connect the two (2) included IR blasters, as shown on the left, to the back remote receiver. There are two inputs, marked ❶ and ❷. Place the IR blasters/outputs over the IR receiver ports on each of the two STB's. Go to Connecting a Splitter below.
2. **One (1)** – Connect one of the included IR blasters to back of the remote receiver in the IR out port labeled ❶. Then, place the blaster output over the IR receiver ports of the STB.
After it is connected, go to ❶ How Did You Connect to the Set-top Box (STB)?
Note: You can only watch or record one show at a time until you get another STB.

Connecting a Splitter:

1. Take your incoming coaxial cable and plug it into the “In” Port of the supplied 1-to-2 coaxial splitter.
2. Plug the 2 output coaxial cables into each cable or satellite input of the set-top boxes (STBs).
3. Move on to ❶ How Did You Connect the TV to the Set-top Box (STB)?



❗ How Did You Connect the TV to the Set-top Box (STB)?

Want the Best TV Quality?

TV input quality, starting from the best/preferred connection, is rated as follows:

1. Coaxial (Good)
2. Composite (Better)
3. S-video (Best)

1. Through a coaxial connection – Go to Connecting from a Coaxial Cable.
2. Through an S-video or RCA (yellow, red & white plugs) connections – Go to Connecting from S-Video/RCA Cables.

Connecting from a Coaxial Cable:

1. If not already connected, connect one end of a coaxial cable into the “Out” port of your STB.
2. Plug the other end into the TV Coaxial Input on the back of the VidaBox™.
3. You’re finished connecting the first set-top box! Repeat if you have another STB.
4. ➡ Move on to ➤ Connect the HDTV Inputs on page 12.

Connecting from S-Video/RCA Cable:



TV-In Adapter

Yours may appear slightly different, but it will have all 4 connections – S-Video & RCA (Yellow, Red, & White) cables

1. Connect the TV-In Adapter into the TV S-Video & RCA Input.
2. Connect the video cable (choose S-video or yellow RCA cable):
 - If you chose the S-video cable, one end is connected to the TV-In Adapter, and the other end is connected to your set-top box.
 - If you chose the yellow RCA cable, one end is connected to the TV-In Adapter, and the other end is connected to your set-top box.

Note: You only need to connect **either** the S-video **or** the yellow RCA video cable. **You do not need to connect both.**

3. Connect one end of the red & white RCA cables into the “Audio Out” port of your STB. These cables are for the audio portion of your TV input.
4. Connect the other end of the red & white RCA cables into the TV-In Adapter.
5. You have now finished connecting the video and audio TV inputs for an STB! Repeat if you have another STB.
6. ➡ Move on to ➤ Connect the HDTV Inputs on page 12.



You have completed the analog TV input installation!

➤ Connect the HDTV Inputs (Optional)

If your VidaBox came with HDTV input(s), you may directly connect them to the VidaBox's X ATSC HDTV OTA Input(s). Before doing so, make sure that your HDTV antenna is installed properly.

If there are no HDTV inputs, skip this section and go to ➤ Connect the Video Output on page 13

❗ How many HDTV inputs do you have?

1. **One** – Go to Connecting Directly from a HDTV Coaxial Cable below.
2. **Two** – Go to Using a Splitter and/or Amplifier below.



1-to-2 coaxial splitter

Connecting Directly from a Coaxial Cable:

1. Take your incoming HDTV coaxial cable and plug it directly into the X ATSC HDTV OTA Input.
2. ➤ Move on to the next section, ➤ Connect the Video Output on page 13

Using a Splitter and/or Amplifier:

1. Take your incoming HDTV coaxial cable and plug it directly into a 1-to-2 coaxial splitter and/or splitter-amplifier combination device, as shown on the left.



1-to-2 coaxial
splitter & amplifier device

Note: You may wish to use a splitter-amplifier combination device to attain better video quality. HDTV signals are sensitive to degradation, and may not work if you are splitting an already weak signal with a 1-to-2 passive splitter.

2. Take the 2 coaxial output cables and plug them into the X ATSC HDTV OTA Inputs.
3. ➤ Move on to the next section, ➤ Connect the Video Output on page 13



Want the Best Video Output Quality?

Video output quality, starting from the best/preferred connection, is rated as follows:

1. Coaxial (Passable)
2. Composite (Fair)
3. S-video (Good)
4. Component (Better)
5. DVI/VGA (Best)



VGA Cable



DVI Cable



Component & S-Video Box/TV-Out Dongle



Component Cables

➤ Connect the Video Output

Every VidaBox™ MAX™ comes with a high-quality S-Video cable. If you wish to connect your MAX™ to the TV's video input using a different cable(s), please purchase it from your local dealer, or through our online store.

❶ Which Video Output / Cable Are You Using?

If you are using (a)...

1. VGA Cable – Go to **Connecting via VGA**
2. DVI/HDMI Cable– Go to **Connecting via DVI/HDMI**
3. Component Cables – You cannot directly connect; read below for details
4. S-Video Cable – You cannot directly connect; read below for details
5. Composite Cable – You cannot directly connect; read below for details
6. Coaxial Cable – You cannot directly connect; read below for details

Connecting via VGA:

1. Simply plug one end of the VGA cable into the DVI-to-VGA adapter, as shown.
2. Plug the other end of the adapter into the **K DVI Output**.
3. You're finished! Move on to ➤ **Connect the Audio Output** on page 15.

Connecting via DVI/HDMI:

1. Simply plug the DVI end of the cable into the **T DVI Output**.
2. Plug the HDMI end into the TV and you're finished! Move on to ➤ **Connect the Audio Output** on page 15.

Connecting via Component:

1. Due to HDCP compliance issues, you cannot directly connect component cables to the VidaBox MAX. You'll need to purchase an additional video conversion hardware
2. If you already have such hardware, follow its instructions & connect it now.
3. Connect the other end of the component cables into your television.
4. You're finished! Move on to ➤ **Connect the Audio Output** on page 15.



S-video Cable

Connecting via S-Video:

1. Due to HDCP compliance issues, you cannot directly connect S-Video cables to the VidaBox MAX. You'll need to purchase an additional video conversion hardware
2. If you already have such hardware, follow its instructions & connect it nowConnect the other end of the S-video cable into your television.
3. You're finished! Move on to ➤ Connect the Audio Output on page 15.



Composite RCA Video Cable

Connecting via Composite (requires optional adapter):

1. Due to HDCP compliance issues, you cannot directly connect composite cables to the VidaBox MAX. You'll need to purchase an additional video conversion hardware
2. If you already have such hardware, follow its instructions & connect it nowConnect the other end of the S-video cable into your television.
3. Connect the other end of the RCA Video cable into the TV.
4. You're finished! Move on to ➤ Connect the Audio Output on page 15.



Coaxial Cable

Connecting via Coaxial (requires optional converter):

1. Due to HDCP compliance issues, you cannot directly connect composite cables to the VidaBox MAX. You'll need to purchase an additional video conversion hardware
2. If you already have such hardware, follow its instructions & connect it nowConnect the other end of the S-video cable into your television.
3. Connect the other end of the coaxial cable into your television.
4. You're finished! Move on to ➤ Connect the Audio Output on page 15.



S-video to Coaxial Converter (optional)



You have completed the video output installation!

➤ Connect the Audio Output



The SPDIF output

There are two types of cables, as shown. If you choose to use the SPDIF-output, you only need to use one of the two outputs, not both.

Every VidaBox™ MAX™ comes with a high-quality set of L/R RCA audio cables and 3.5mm converter for 2.0 stereo sound. If you wish to connect the audio output of your MAX™ differently, please purchase the appropriate cables from your local dealer, or through our online store.

❶ Which Audio Output / Cable Are You Using?

If you are using...

- 2.0 RCA (L/R) stereo sound RCA cables, or
- A direct 3.5 to 3.5mm stereo sound cable, or
- 5.1/7.1 analog surround sound cables –
Go to Connecting via Analog Sound

- Digital Optical/Coaxial Cable –
Go to Connecting via Digital Sound

Connecting via Analog Sound:

1. Do not connect any audio cables at this time. You will do so while configuring the software, which will be covered in the next manual – **Software Configuration**.

Connecting via Digital Sound:

There are two SPDIF outputs for the MAX™ - coaxial & optical. You can choose to use either output – but do not use both at the same time. The coaxial outputs use an RCA cable, and the optical output uses a TOSLink cable, as depicted below.



Coaxial SPDIF (RCA) Cable



Optical SPDIF (TOSLink) Cable

1. Plug one end of the SPDIF cable into the **Q SPDIF-Out** port.
2. Plug the other end of the SPDIF cable into your receiver.
3. That's it! The audio is now connected from the VidaBox™ to the receiver.



You have completed the audio output installation!

➤ Connect the Wireless Keyboard

After installing the video and audio outputs, it is time to connect and synchronize the wireless keyboard to its receiver. Make sure that the wireless keyboard receiver is connected to the VidaBox™, and start the MAX™ by pressing the D Power Button.

1. Place the 3 included ‘AA’ batteries into the keyboard. Be careful to observe polarity – improper battery installation may damage the keyboard.
2. Connect the USB receiver to the USB extension cable, and **place the USB receiver in a location where it will have full line-of-sight with your keyboard at all times.**
3. Bring the wireless keyboard within 3 feet to the USB receiver with clear line-of-sight (i.e. no obstructions).



**Keyboard
Synchronization
Button**

Press this button to synchronize the wireless keyboard with its receiver.

4. Look for a small “sync” button on the USB receiver, as shown on the right. Be sure it is connected to the VidaBox™ and the VidaBox™ is turned **on**.
5. Using a paper clip or other small object, press and hold this button down for at least 3 seconds.
6. On the wireless keyboard, hit the synchronization button, as shown on the left.
7. Give the keyboard a few moments, and it should connect to the USB receiver.
8. If this does not work, try replacing the batteries with a fresh set and try again from step 2.

Note: For battery replacement, note that less expensive, non-brand name “value” batteries are not recommended for use with our equipment, as they may not supply enough energy for performance. If the problem persists, please contact us.



You've Finished the Hardware Installation!

After completing the hardware installation, you can proceed to set up the software by referring to the **Software Configuration Guide**.

➤ The Next Step

Congratulations! You've set up all of the physical connections for the VidaBox™ MAX! The next step is to properly configure the software. Refer to the "Software Configuration Guide" for the next steps.

If you find that you are having trouble configuring the software or having the VidaBox™ function properly, it may be due to improper physical connections. You may want to go back and review all of the installation steps to be sure no mistakes were made, and you can also use the included **Troubleshooting Guide** to help diagnose your problem.

If all else fails, you can seek further assistance as denoted in our ➤ **Service Information** section on the next page.



Register Your VidaBox™!

For faster service, please don't forget to register your VidaBox™ at <http://www.vidabox.com/register.htm> within 10 days of purchase. This will automatically activate your all-inclusive limited-time warranty, and allow us to help you as quickly as possible!

If you haven't registered your VidaBox™ and need service – be prepared to give your purchase information, such as serial number, date & place of purchase, etc. This will allow us to give genuine VidaBox™ owners like you top priority and express service.

➤ Service Information

Thank you for purchasing a VidaBox™, the system that makes Home Entertainment Simple! Please take some time now to review and familiarize yourself with our warranty policy by visiting our website at <http://www.vidabox.com/warranty>.

Contact Your Dealer/Place of Purchase:

- If you find that you are having trouble installing or setting up the VidaBox™, first try using the included **Troubleshooting Guide** to resolve your problem.
- If you need further assistance, please contact your dealer or place of purchase.
- If you need additional assistance that your dealer cannot provide, if you purchased a service protection plan, or if you purchased your VidaBox™ directly from us, you can contact us using one of the following ways:
 1. VidaBox™ Online Support – Our forums are full of common tips and troubleshooting knowledge. Feel free to search your answer. If you can't find your answer, register for free and post your question. The forums are constantly monitored, and one of our community members will be able to help you in no time.
 2. Phone-based Support – Please see our website for business hours. Live phone support is available for free for all new VidaBox™ owners for a limited-time, as part of our warranty policy. An extended support plan is also available as an upgrade option when you purchase the VidaBox™. After the warranty period expires, you can get support on a fee-based basis.

Contact VidaBox LLC:

Whenever you need support – VidaBox™ will be there. That's our guarantee.

Contact Information:

Website: www.vidabox.com

Online support: www.vidabox.com/support

Phone-based support: See the inside cover of the **Troubleshooting Guide**

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Version 1.0c